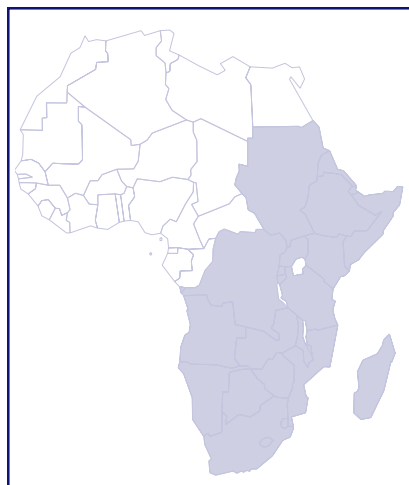


Regional Economic Development Services Office for East and Southern Africa (REDSO / ESA)

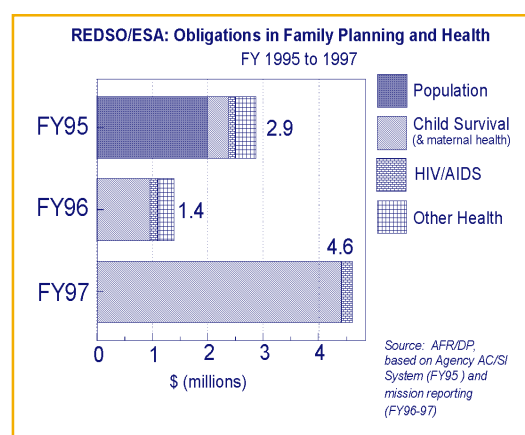


Countries benefitting from REDSO/ESA population, health, and nutrition activities:

Angola	Djibouti	Madagascar	Réunion	Swaziland
Botswana	Eritrea	Malawi	Rwanda	Tanzania
Burundi	Ethiopia	Mauritius	South Africa	Uganda
Comoros	Kenya	Mozambique	Somalia	Zambia
Congo, DR	Lesotho	Namibia	Sudan	Zimbabwe

Total Number of Countries: 25
 Total Population (1997): 363,658,373
 Infant Mortality Rate: 96 deaths per 1,000 births
 Total Fertility Rate: 5.7 children per woman

The development program of Regional Economic Development Services Office/East and Southern Africa (REDSO / ESA) includes the areas of economic development, conflict management, agriculture, child and reproductive health, natural resources management, response to humanitarian crises, and regional support to USAID efforts in the ESA region, including country mission programs, the agencywide Greater Horn of Africa Initiative (GHAI). Across these sectors and programs, REDSO/ESA focuses on increasing the availability and use of critical information by USAID and other decision-makers in the region, including efforts under the Leland Initiative to enhance use of electronic communication. Funding trends for population, health, and nutrition (PHN) activities under REDSO/ESA are summarized in the box to the right. The office's results framework includes the proposed strategic objective and intermediate results (IRs) in child and reproductive health:



Strategic Objective 4: Increased adoption of better practices within health systems

- IR 4.1: Strengthened Information Networks
- IR 4.2: Improved Technical Capacity of Regional Partners
- IR 4.3: Improved Policy Environment
- IR 4.4: Country Level Implementation
- IR 4.5: Enhanced African Capacity to Implement Household Level Nutrition and Other Child Survival Interventions
- IR 4.6: Enhanced Capacity for ESA Missions to Attain their PHN SOs/IRs

REDSO/ESA Activities in Family Planning and Health

Support to USAID Missions and Regional Projects. In the area of family planning and health, REDSO/ESA's Population, Health, and Nutrition (PHN) team assists USAID missions in the ESA region in the areas of strategic planning, program implementation, program monitoring and evaluation, and staff training. Working in partnership with the Global and Africa Bureaus, REDSO/ESA has improved the design and implementation of family planning and health activities in Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Africa, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. The PHN team serves as a source of regional expertise in reproductive health, including adolescent RH and postabortion care, quality of care, health care financing, and HIV/AIDS. REDSO is also developing a regional initiative addressing linkages between improved nutrition and food security to be implemented with indigenous organizations in GHAI focus countries. Participants from Sudan and Somalia have attended regional nutrition and quality of care meetings and have worked with

REDSO in developing programs.

Regional Health Networks. Regional health networks developed by REDSO/ESA strive to ensure that successful technologies and approaches are shared, borrowed, and adopted across national borders. They are a means for USAID and its development partners to view family planning and health problems and solutions from a broad regional perspective. The activity focus areas within Health Networks were developed in response to partner surveys including family planning and health organizations, USAID missions in the region, Ministries of Health and other African partners. The activity focus areas include:

- Health care financing,
- Integration of sexually transmitted infection (STI)/HIV services into maternal and child health and family planning services,
- Quality of care,
- Postabortion care,
- Adolescent reproductive health,
- Nutrition,
- Commodity logistics (for essential drugs and contraceptives), and
- Capacity building, particularly through the Center for African Family Studies (CAFS) regional center.

For example, in health care financing, the networks facilitate communications about successful approaches among an extensive network of service delivery groups (governmental, private, and NGO) in the region. Partnerships established by the networks include USAID missions; six ministries of health; a regional coordinating body representing 14 ESA countries; private hospital systems in Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania; and two major donors, and have led to the Agency's first Africa-wide initiative in health care financing.

REDSO is now working to build the capacity of African regional institutions to increasingly manage and implement Health Networks activities in the coming years. Three institutions are now REDSO partners in the endeavor. The Commonwealth Regional Health Community Secretariat, Makerere University in Uganda, and the Centre for African Family Studies.

Collaborating Partners

In addition to the various USAID missions in the ESA region as well as USAID's Global and Africa Bureaus, REDSO/ESA's regional and international partners in family planning and health include:

Regional organizations

Centre for African Family Studies (CAFS)
Commonwealth Regional Health Community
East, Central, and Southern African College of Nurses
Makerere University

Other donors

The World Bank
World Health Organization

Cooperating agencies and contractors

Partners for Health Reform
AVSC International
Family Health International
SEATS Project
Partnerships for Child Health
Pathfinder International
The Population Council
Public Health Institute
Bureau of Census
CEDPA
INTRAH/PRIME
Michigan Fellows
Population Communication Services
JHPIEGO
Linkages
Quality Assurance Project



This USAID Country Program Brief was prepared for the Human Resources Division, Office of Sustainable Development, USAID Africa Bureau (AFR/SD/HRD), by the Center for International Health Information (CIHI). Questions and comments can be directed to CIHI (info@cihi.com).